



Rockcliffe Newsletter 9 – Autumn Term

Dear Rockcliffe Families,

Welcome back to a new half-term. This one is always very busy and I'm looking forward to my first Rockcliffe Christmas. I hope that all of our families had a great half-term break.

As a staff team we started the week with a great training day. In the morning we worked with the Andrew Cartwright FC Team to support us with the delivery and planning of PE sessions. After our really enjoyable practical session there were a few sore legs on Tuesday and I now know who the most competitive staff members are! Miss Millen, our new PE Lead, completed the morning by introducing our new PE curriculum plan. In the afternoon, we looked at our approach to teaching phonics across school in a very informative session from Mrs Ratcliffe.



Both sessions enabled us as staff to Learn from our successes. This along with learning from mistakes has been our Rockcliffe Learning Superpower this week. It has been a good approach to enable the children to really reflect on their year and work so far.

Parent Governor Elections

Thank you to everyone who returned their ballot papers for the recent Parent Governor elections. I'm delighted to tell you that Janine Arndt, Karen Hall, Peter Hubbard and Sophie Manning were elected to the Governing Body. They will be joining us for their first meeting next week. Can the Governing Body and I say a big thank you to all of the nominees who put themselves forward to help support the school in the future. We really appreciated the level of interest.

Early Christmas Present



The eagle-eyed children immediately spotted our shiny new (much needed) screen in the hall on Tuesday. This will be a great addition for assemblies, PE lessons, parent events and much more. With school budgets where they are at the moment, this wouldn't have been possible without the fundraising from the Friends of Rockcliffe at the Summer

Extravaganza. Planning for the next Friends' event, the Christmas Fair, is underway. If you'd like to be involved with our new team, please email the office.

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Anti-bullying Week



Next week is the national Anti-bullying Week. The theme is Power for Good and through the week the children will take part in assemblies and lessons linked to this. On Monday, we would encourage all children to come to school in odd socks to support the national campaign.

Children In Need

On Friday (14th November), Rockcliffe is celebrating 25 years of Children in Need and this year's theme is "25"! To mark the occasion, we will be hosting a whole-school 25-minute Danceathon! Every child will join a fun, music-filled dance party for 25 minutes!

We would love for you to get involved by sponsoring your child to take part in this exciting event and help us raise money for this amazing cause.

Every donation—big or small—makes a real difference! To make giving easier, we've set up a GoFundMe page where you can contribute digitally. If you would like to donate, follow this link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/rockcliffes25minutedanceathon>



The children can also come to school wearing something spotty. There is no need to buy anything new, just get creative with what you have! Thank you for your support in making this event a success!

And a big thank you to Miss Towers, our new PSHE lead, for co-ordinating these events.



Quicksticks Hockey

On Wednesday, our Year 4 children from Beacon and Priory classes represented Rockcliffe in the Quicksticks Hockey Festival at Marden Bridge Middle School. Our children showed brilliant skills and sportsmanship.

Kids' Club

If you use Kids' Club please remember that from next week, all bookings and payments must be via School Gateway. All information has been sent to you before half-term about how to pay online or via childcare vouchers. Bookings until Christmas are now live.

Finally, this week we sent out key Christmas dates - these are on the next page too. Please add these to your diaries. Have a lovely weekend,

Tom Jones



Dates for Your Diary

November	
Mon 10 th	Anti-bullying Week – please come to school in Odd Socks on Monday
Mon 10 th	Priory Beach School
Fri 14 th	Children in Need – wear spots for our Danceathon
Fri 21 st	Lighthouse Beach School
December	
Wed 3 rd	Christmas Lunch – wear Christmas Jumpers
Fri 5 th	Y3 AM: Christmas Unwrapped event at Whitley Bay Baptist Church
Tue 9 th	10am: Beacon, Lighthouse & Priory Performance 1
Wed 10 th	10am: Beacon, Lighthouse & Priory Performance 2
Thu 11 th	10am: Lapwings, Puffins & Sandpipers Performance 1
Fri 12 th	10am: Lapwings, Puffins & Sandpipers Performance 2
Mon 15 th	10am: Seahorses & Starfish Performance
Mon 15 th	PM: Lapwings & Sandpipers Christmas Parties
Tue 16 th	10am: Sandcastles Nursery Performance
Tue 16 th	PM: Puffins & Priory Christmas Parties
Wed 17 th	PM: Beacon and Lighthouse Christmas Parties
Thu 18 th	AM: Sandcastles Nursery Christmas Party
Thu 18 th	PM: Seahorses and Starfish Christmas Parties
Fri 19 th	End of Autumn Term
January	
Mon 5 th	Teacher Training Day
Tue 6 th	Start of Spring Term